



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**  
Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

## Proposed Nisqually Reach Aquatic Reserve Planning Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Prepared By: Michael Grilliot

Jan 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Nisqually Reach Nature Center, Luhr Beach, Olympia, WA

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**PARTICIPANTS:** **Betty Bookheim** (Department of Natural Resources), **Bill Dewey** (Shellfish Industry), **Daniel Hull** (Nisqually Reach Nature Center), **David Palazzi** (Department of Natural Resources), **Doug Meyers** (Nisqually Reach Nature Center), **Jerry Johannes** (Anderson Island), **Kris Phelps** (Nisqually Tribe), **Kyle Murphy** (Department of Natural Resources), **Marian Bailey** (Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge), **Mark Swartout** (Thurston Regional Planning Council), **Michael Grilliot** (Department of Natural Resources), **Robert Pacunski** (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife), **Roma Call** (Puget Sound Partnership), **Tom Kantz** (Pierce County Planning)

### INTRODUCTIONS:

*Introductions of Planning Advisory Committee members began at 1:00 pm:*

### RESERVES PROGRAM:

*The meeting began by DNR briefing the committee members on DNR and the Aquatic Reserves Program:*

A few general questions were raised about the reserves program and the designation process.

Doug Meyers gave a brief synopsis of the foundations of the Nature Center and the Nature centers goals for the Nisqually Reach Aquatic Reserve.

### COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

*The committee work plan and committee member roles and responsibilities were outlined:*

Doug Meyers discussed the Nature Center's pledge for the proposed reserve and the role of the Citizen Advisory Committee Meetings

No questions were posed about the roles and responsibilities of the committee or committee workplan.

A question was raised concerning the committee's role after the Aquatic Reserve is designated. It will be determined later if the committee will continue to meet as a management committee or if the Nisqually Reach Nature Center's board will fill the majority of that role with DNR.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT OF PLAN:

*The official boundaries of the proposed reserve were then discussed.*

Doug Meyers gave a brief history of the evolution of the proposed reserve boundary.

One issue was concerned with WDFW tidelands actually being owned by WDFW or owned by the state and managed by WDFW. Clarification of ownership was requested.

Along the same lines of ownership, a map was requested that specified ownership of non-DNR managed tidelands on the land management map.

Serious questions were raised about the dredge disposal site within the reserve and its continued function as a disposal site. It was determined that a dredge disposal expert should be invited to the next meeting to further clarify the process and potential issues associated with prohibiting dredge dumping at the site and providing alternative dumping options.

Requests were made to bring more information regarding the wildstock geoduck tracts within the proposed reserve boundary to the next meeting.

Inquiries were made into existing leases DNR has in the area concerning docks. DNR has an overwater structure shapefile that will be presented at the next meeting.

Concerns were raised with the McNeil Island Penitentiary operation issue. While the penitentiary may not stay open in the future, it was agreed that the boundary should include as much of the area around the southern side of McNeil Island to protect habitat, regardless of ownership. It was said that an outfall exists into the proposed reserve boundary from McNeil Island on the shoreline near Eagle Island. More research on this issue is required.

*After a short break, the committee created a list of issues and uses to consider during the development of the management plan.*

The list is as follows in alphabetical order:

- Aquaculture
  - + Geoduck, Oyster and Clam, Finfish, Restoration
- Climate Change and Sea-level Rise
- Derelict Gear and Vessels/Creosote Pilings Removal
- Dredge Disposal
- Education
  - + Ownership Definitions (actual vs perceived)
- Future Outfalls/Intakes
- Historic and Current Cultural Resources
- NPDES Permits
- Property Issues – Transparency of restrictions to landowners
- Public Use
- Railroad
- Restoration Projects
- Scientific Research
- Tolmie State Park Ownership
- Utility Crossings

## **CONSERVATION TARGETS:**

*Conservation Targets outlined by the site proponent (People For Puget Sound) and the Technical Advisory Committee were compared and discussed.*

One species the comparison did not identify that was brought to the attention of the committee was non-canopy forming kelp and finding possible data sources to support the existence of such species.

The conservation targets were briefly discussed and a few things added to the list however it was determined that the targets needed to focus on habitat and not individual species.

Due to time constraints it was decided that DNR and NRNC would develop a consolidated list of potential conservation targets for discussion at the next meeting.

## **OTHER BUSINESS:**

It was determined that the Nisqually Reach Planning Advisory Committee Meetings would be held on the second Friday of every other month starting with this first meeting on Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 2010, leaving subsequent meetings on March 12<sup>th</sup>, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and July 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no members of the public present and no public comment recorded.

## **CLOSING:**

The meeting was concluded at 4:00 pm